

## HOSTILITY IN THE REPLY

### The Transvaal Rejects Indirect

England Held Responsible for the  
Miscarriage of Former Compro-  
mise Measures—General White to  
Leave Cape Town and Take Com-  
mand of British Troops Near Natal.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—Dr. Gavin Brown Clark, M. P., formerly Consul General of the South African Republic here, telegraphed to the Transvaal Government portions of the recent speech of the Duke of

Devonshire, which he thought would afford an opening for a peaceable solution of the present difficulties, as the Duke represented an influential and important section of the cabinet and country. In reply

The Government of the South African Republic cables that it is gratified to learn that powerful influences are at work to secure a peaceful solution of the trouble. The despatch goes on to say:

"Considering, however, the manner in which their five-year franchise proposals were rejected, after this government had

every intimation that they would be accepted, and the abandoning of the joint commission proposed by Great Britain; and, still more, in view of the declaration made in the last despatch received that the British Government regards all former proposals abandoned and are proceed-

ing to formulate fresh proposals, the Government of the South African Republic do not feel themselves at liberty to reformulate the rejected proposals. If the

desire for peace is earnest and sincere, an excellent opening is afforded by the acceptance of the joint-commission idea—a proposition emanating from the British Government itself, which, if carried out, would undoubtedly bring about a satisfactory and honorable settlement."

The "Evening News" says a meeting of

members of the last Liberal cabinet who will act with Right Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader and formerly secretary of state for war, was held this morning at Sir Henry's house for the purpose of discussing the present crisis.

It was decided to support the government even if this course should bring them into conflict with their former colleagues. Sir William Vernon-Harcourt and Hon. John Morley, both of whom are opposed to war.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 4.—On the arrival of the steamship Tantallon Castle with Quartermaster General Sir George White on board, the latter found that the situation was regarded here as extremely grave. Affairs look so serious on the Natal border that the authorities considered it expedient to wire the Admiral at Simon's Bay, asking if the cruiser Doris was available to convey General White and the

principal members of his staff direct to Durban. If the Deris is available, General White will sail tomorrow and will take command of the forces on the Natal border on Sunday.

**Mr. Pierce's Mistaken Idea Concerning This Government.**

Government officials resent the statement attributed to Mr. Pierce, the Consul General of the Orange Free State in New York, that the cause of President McKinley's declination of the request of President Steyn

of the Free State, to use his good offices with neutral nations to prevent war between Great Britain and the Transvaal was due to American sympathy for England. They say that the statement is absolutely untrue and that the Government would take official notice of it if Mr. Pierce were of sufficient consequence to justify such action. As a matter of fact the reason for President McKinley's declination to act in the matter was that this Government was not asked to become a party to a tender

If Great Britain or the Transvaal had made the request the President would

probably have brought it to the attention of other governments, but would not become a second-hand go-between in the manner suggested by President Steyn. The United States would hardly go to other neutral nations and ask that they endeavor to bring about a submission to arbitration of a dispute between Germany and Russia.

the dispute between England and the Boers. Any overtures made by the United States would have been made directly to either England or the Transvaal and not to Europe.

Persistent attempts have been made by people in this country to get the Government to take sides in the South African trouble. A great many letters and telegrams have been received by the President and the Secretary of State urging the Government to declare sympathy with Great Britain on the ground that the interests of Americans citizens are nearly identical.

with those of Great Britain. On the other hand, quite as many people have asked the Government to take sides with the poor Chief Minister, Mr. Bhebe Cockran. The Government has consistently declined, however, to be brought into the controversy and there is not the slightest probability that the United States will become a party to the Afrikanro dispute, unless asked to use its good offices for Great Britain or the Transvaal.

**FRESHMEN ROUT SOPHOMORES.**

**Second Class Men Defeated in a Harvard Rush.**

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Oct. 4.—In its efforts to discontinue rushing the Harvard faculty offered to the lower classes a chance to establish a new record in the matter. Last night the freshmen and sophomores

The freshmen all gathered to hear the advices of the faculty in Sanders' Theatre and after they had been duly edified they

were dismissed. Rush, however, was in the air and when someone outside the theatre shouted: "Three, this way," everybody knew what was meant and the class formed in a second, shouting defiance at the sophomores. The latter had a hard time

in organizing, and when the freshmen made their first attempt on the group assembled on the north side of the yard there was very little resistance and the older men were sent scattering, the freshmen winning easily.

**\$10 to Niagara Falls and Return \$10  
via Pennsylvania Railroad.**

Special trains will leave Washington at 8 a. m. Thursday, October 3. Tickets limited to ten days, allow stop over at Buffalo, Rochester, Canandaigua, and Watkins returning. Pamphlets giving detailed information on application to

**Lowest estimates on Lumber**  
and mill work. F. Libbey & Co., 6th & N. Y. ave.

---